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Urban Districts of
Hoylelake, Neston and Wirral

REPORT

OF

The Medical Officer of Health

J. HATTON, M.D., D.P.H.

For the Year 1954



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Report of Medical Officer of Health for 1954

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STAFF.

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J. HATTON, M.D., D.P.H.

Clerk:

Miss J. MAUDE

HOYLAKE.

Chief Sanitary Inspector:

J. McKEOWN, M.R.S.I.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors:

J. H. MEACHIN, A.R.San.I.

F. K. HARROP, D.P.A., A.R.San.I.

Clerk:

Mrs. M. T. McKie

NESTON.

Sanitary Inspector:

A. E. PRINCE, D.P.A., A.R.San.I., M.R.I.P.H.H.

WIRRAL.

Chief Sanitary Inspector:

G. H. WILLIAMS, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors:

W. K. ALLEN, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

J. M. FARRALL, A.R.San.I.

Clerk:

Miss B. Ruddlesden

INTRODUCTION.

The report for the year 1954 contains statistics and other material for comparison with other areas or with the country as a whole. It includes as well suggestions and recommendations for the improvement of existing conditions.

The three Urban Districts which are considered in the report are similar in character as they are situated beside the estuary of the River Dee, grouped about nuclei constituted by old village settlements. The inhabitants find employment in the neighbouring Merseyside industrial areas, though agriculture and fishing are pursued by some, and other local industries are printing, woodworking, brickmaking and laundering.

The population of the combined area is estimated at 58,300, occupying a space of 20,069 acres, a density of some 2.9 persons per acre. The estimated population showed some increase on that of 1953.

The statistics in the pages which follow compare favourably with the national figures and show that conditions in the three districts are very good. The birth and death rates in comparison with those of England and Wales can be regarded as normal for an area of this nature, and the infant mortality rates are satisfactory.

Notifications of infectious disease showed some increase this year. Measles was very prevalent during the first half of the year, 582 cases being reported.

HOYLAKE URBAN DISTRICT.

The Urban District was constituted in 1889; and on 1st April, 1933, the Parishes of Caldby, Frankby, Greasby, Grange and part of Saughall Massie were added.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (acres)	5,933
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population (mid-1954)	31,080
Number of inhabited houses	8,848
Rateable Value	£297,695
Sum represented by a penny rate	£1,199

The area is residential and agricultural. Fishing is still pursued by Hoylake men, and other occupations are laundry and domestic work, wood-working, printing and brickmaking.

The natural increase of a population is the excess of births over deaths. The following table shows the condition 1945—1954 in Hoylake :—

Year	Population	Natural Increase per 1,000 of Population.
1945	24,770	10 more births than deaths +0.4
1946	26,080	51 more births than deaths +1.9
1947	26,280	20 more births than deaths +0.8
1948	27,310	23 more births than deaths +0.8
1949	27,500	1 more birth than deaths ... +.04
1950	30,950	40 more births than deaths ... +1.3
1951	30,880	76 more deaths than births ... —2.5
1952	31,260	50 more deaths than births —1.6
1953	30,620	17 more births than deaths +0.8
1954	31,080	2 more births than deaths +0.1

Extracts from vital statistics for the year 1954.

These statistics are calculated on a population of 31,080, the estimate furnished by the Registrar-General.

Live Births.					Total	Males	Females
Legitimate	....	....	....	....	375	170	205
Illegitimate	....	....	....	....	10	6	4
Totals	....	....	....	....	385	176	209

Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	....	12.4
Birth Rate for England and Wales	....	15.2
Birth Rate in 160 Smaller Towns (resident population 25,000—50,000 at 1951 census)	....	15.5

Stillbirths.					Total	Males	Females
Legitimate	....	....	....	....	7	3	4
Illegitimate	....	....	....	....	—	—	—
Totals	....	....	....	....	7	3	4

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	....	17.9
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births for England and Wales	....	24.0

Deaths.					Total	Males	Females
					383	175	208

Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population	....	12.3
Death Rate for England and Wales	....	11.3
Death Rate for 160 Smaller Towns (resident population 25,000—50,000 at 1951 census)	....	11.3

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
Pregnancy, Abortion	1	2.6
Childbirth, ...		

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age:—

	Total	Males	Females
Legitimate	8	6	2
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Totals	8	6	2
All infants per 1,000 live births			20.8
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births			21.3
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births			—
Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales			25.5
Infant Mortality Rate for 160 Smaller Towns (resident population 25,000—50,000 at 1951 census)			23.8
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)			5.4
Deaths from Measles (all ages)			Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)			Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)			Nil

Number of Deaths during Years 1945—1954.		
Year	Number	Rate per 1,000 per annum.
1945	323	13.0
1946	347	13.3
1947	397	15.1
1948	330	12.1
1949	357	13.0
1950	367	11.9
1951	430	13.9
1952	407	13.0
1953	351	11.5
1954	383	12.3

Deaths at Various Ages During 1954.	
Age	Number of Deaths
Under 1 year	8
1 year and under 2	—
2 years and under 5	1
5 years and under 15	1
15 years and under 25	2
25 years and under 35	5
35 years and under 45	7
45 years and under 55	18
55 years and under 65	53
65 years and under 75	93
75 years and under 85	150
85 years and over	45
Total	383

Table of Infantile Mortality, 1945–1954.

Death rate of infants under 1 year of age (per 1,000 live births):—

Year	Hoylake	England and Wales
1945	30.0	46
1946	40.2	43
1947	55.2	41
1948	19.8	34
1949	22.3	32
1950	14.7	29.8
1951	25.4	29.6
1952	30.8	27.6
1953	27.1	26.8
1954	20.8	25.5

The Infant Mortality Rate in the 160 Smaller Towns was 23.8 in 1954.

Infantile Deaths.

The causes of death of children under the age of one year are shown below.

Cause of Death	Under 1 week	1—2 weeks	2—3 weeks	3—4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3—6 months	6—9 months	9—12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Congenital Malformations	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Accidental	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Other defined and ill defined diseases	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
Total	5	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	8

Causes of Death.

The table below was compiled from figures supplied by the Registrar-General, and the classification is given according to the cause of death.

Causes of Death	Males	Females	Total
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	4	5
2. Tuberculosis, other	—	1	1
3. Syphilitic Disease	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections	1	—	1
7. Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—
8. Measles	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	7	3	10
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	5	2	7
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	3	3
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	1	1
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	13	20	33
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	—	—
16. Diabetes	—	—	—
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	20	32	52
18. Coronary disease, angina	46	28	74
19. Hypertension with heart disease	3	5	8
20. Other heart disease	26	41	67
21. Other circulatory disease	11	13	24
22. Influenza	—	1	1
23. Pneumonia	4	7	11
24. Bronchitis	3	7	10
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	1	1	2
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	7	8	15
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	—	—
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	3	5	8
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—	1
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	1	1
31. Congenital malformations	1	—	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	15	20	35
33. Motor vehicle accidents	2	—	2
34. All other accidents	2	1	3
35. Suicide	3	4	7
36. Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—
TOTALS	175	208	383

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1954 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year	LIVE BIRTHS			DEATHS								Natural Increase (Excess of Births over Deaths)			
	Population Estimated Mid-Year	Rate England & Wales		Total Number Registered in District	Transferable		Under 1 year of age			At all ages					
		Number	Rate		Of Non-Residents Registered in District	Of Residents Not Registered in District	Number	Rate per 1,000 Live Births	Rate England & Wales	Number	Rate		Standard Rate for Comparison with England & Wales	Rate England & Wales	
1945	24,770	333	13.4	16.1	280	37	80	10	30.0	46	323	13.0		11.4	+ 10
1946	26,080	398	15.3	19.1	283	38	102	16	40.2	43	347	13.3		11.5	+ 51
1947	26,280	417	15.9	20.5	331	33	99	23	55.2	41	397	15.1		12.0	+ 20
1948	27,310	353	12.9	17.9	244	17	103	7	19.8	34	330	12.1		10.8	+ 23
1949	27,500	358	13.0	16.7	274	17	100	8	22.3	32	357	13.0	10.4	11.7	+ 1
1950	30,950	407	13.2	15.8	272	19	114	6	14.7	29.8	367	11.9	10.4	11.6	+ 40
1951	30,880	354	11.5	15.5	303	25	152	9	25.4	29.6	430	13.9	12.1	12.5	— 76
1952	31,260	357	11.4	15.3	319	33	121	11	30.8	27.6	407	13.0	11.3	11.3	— 50
1953	30,620	358	12.0	15.5	265	27	113	10	27.1	26.8	351	11.5	10.0	11.4	+ 17
1954	31,080	385	12.4	15.2	300	40	123	8	20.8	25.5	383	12.3	10.3	11.3	+ 2

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Public Health Officers.

Details are given on page 3.

Laboratory Facilities.

Investigations of a Public Health nature are undertaken by the Birkenhead and Liverpool branches of the Ministry of Health Laboratory Service. A clinical pathology service is provided by the Regional Hospital Board in the Board's laboratories at the Clatterbridge General Hospital and the Victoria Hospital, Wallasey.

Food and drugs throughout the district are submitted for analysis to the Cheshire County Laboratory. The samples are taken by County Officers.

Ambulance Facilities.

The Cheshire County Council is the ambulance authority for this area. There has been a great increase in the demand for ambulance and hospital transport and it has been necessary to provide for a considerable expansion of the service in order to meet the increased volume of work.

The ambulance service is operated from Broomfield, Meols Drive, Hoylake, and Sandymount, Telegraph Road, Heswall (telephone Hoylake 2970).

Home Nursing.

This service is now regulated by the Cheshire County Council and two District Nurses are employed by them in this area. The Hoylake and West Kirby District Nursing Association works independently. The Association provides two trained nurses for work about the district, and subscriptions from charitable persons and small charges for services rendered serve to support the organisation.

Treatment Centres and Clinics.

The County Council's Diphtheria Immunisation Clinic is conducted at "Broomfield", Meols Drive, Hoylake, every Thursday at 2.0 p.m. and additional clinics are arranged when required.

The following clinics are also provided by the Cheshire County Council :—

Child Welfare.

Place	Each Month	Time.
Hoylake—"Broomfield," Clinic Centre, Meols Drive	Every Thursday	2-0 p.m.
West Kirby—Parish Hall, West- bourne Road	Every Friday	1-45 p.m.
Greasby—Methodist Church Hall	Every Tuesday	1-45 p.m.

Ante-Natal.

This Clinic is provided by the Cheshire County Council in conjunction with the Central Wirral Hospital Management Committee and is held at :

Hoylake—"Broomfield," Clinic Centre, Meols Drive	Every Tuesday	9.30 a.m.
The County Health Visitors and Midwives are in attendance.		

School Clinic.

Hoylake—"Broomfield," Clinic Centre, Meols Drive	Daily except (Tuesday and Saturday)	9 a.m. to 11 a.m.
--	--	----------------------

(School Medical Officer attends every Friday at 10 a.m.)

Dental Treatment.

Dental Clinics are held by arrangement at "Broomfield," Meols Drive, Hoylake.

The following specialist clinics are provided for patients residing in the Hoylake Urban District :—

Ophthalmic.

Place	Each Month	Time
Hoylake—"Broomfield," Clinic Centre, Meols Drive	1st and 3rd Fridays	2-0 p.m.

Orthopaedic

Hoylake Cottage Hospital	Every 1st and 3rd Saturdays	9-30 a.m. to 12-30 p.m.
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Speech Therapy.

Hoylake—"Broomfield" Clinic Centre, Meols Drive	Every Monday	9-0 a.m. to 4-0 p.m.
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Paediatric.

Hoylake—"Broomfield" Clinic Centre, Meols Drive	Every Monday	11 a.m. to 12 noon
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Tuberculosis.

Wallasey—Mill Lane Hospital	Every Monday	9 a.m. to 12-30 p.m. adults. 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. adults.
	Every Tuesday	9 a.m. to 12-30 p.m. children 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. adults.
	Every Wednesday	9 a.m. to 12-30 p.m. adults.
	Every Friday	9 a.m. to 12-30 p.m. adults.
Hoylake—Hoylake Cottage Hospital.	1st and 3rd Mondays	2-30 p.m.

Venereal Disease

St. James Hospital, Every Monday 2-0 to 6.30 p.m.	Male and Female.
Tollernache Road, Birkenhead.	Every Wednesday 10-0 to 12 noon Male and Female.
(Clinic Annexe)	2-0 to 6-30 p.m. Male and Female.
	Every Friday 2-0 to 6-30 p.m. Male and Female.

Hospitals.

The hospitals of the district, both voluntary and public, are under the control of the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board. Hoylake is in the area of the North Wirral Hospital Management Committee which administers the Hoylake and West Kirby Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital and Caldý Manor Hospital. The Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital has an authorized bed complement of 38. It is staffed by the practitioners of the district and by visiting consultants. It is equipped for major surgical work and has a modern X-ray department.

Caldý Manor Hospital is specialized for the treatment of heart and circulatory conditions. 41 beds are provided there, and there is a visiting medical and consultant staff.

Other hospitals and institutions under the Board's management are available to local residents. The hospitals at Clatterbridge still admit a large number of patients from this area and others go to the hospitals of Liverpool and Birkenhead.

The Smallpox Hospital for the treatment of cases of this disease is situated at New Ferry.

The Children's Convalescent Home, West Kirby, which has not been included in the Regional Hospital Scheme, provides a number of beds for the emergency treatment of sick children from this locality. This institution has excellent equipment and is staffed by visiting Practitioners and Consultants. It is provided with a steam disinfecter.

National Assistance Act, 1948.

This Act gives power to Local Sanitary Authorities to arrange for removal to hospital under a Justice's order of aged and infirm persons who are not able to look after themselves and who are not receiving proper care and attention. Much time and patience are needed in order to help these old people and a number of such cases have been investigated. Experience has shown that the provisions of this Section are not very effective mainly because of the serious shortage of hospital and other accommodation for the infirm and chronic sick.

Mortuaries.

The Public Mortuary which is owned by the Urban District Council is situated in Carr Lane, Hoylake. Certain improvements which might serve the convenience of those responsible for conducting post mortem examinations have been carried out recently.

Legislation in Force.

The following is a list of the Local Acts of Parliament, Orders of the Cheshire County Council and Adoptive Acts in force in the District :—

Private Acts.

Hoylake and West Kirby Improvement Act, 1897. 15th July, 1897.

Hoylake and West Kirby Improvement Act, 1900. 10th July, 1900.

Hoylake and West Kirby Urban District Council Act, 1925. 7th August, 1925.

Hoylake Urban District Council Act, 1935. 2nd August, 1935.

Adoptive Acts.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890 :-

Parts II, III and IV 1st October, 1891.

Part V 11th February, 1926

The Private Street Works Act, 1892 1st January, 1894

Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, 1899 - 1923 - 1945. 15th January 1924.

The Public Health Act, 1925 1st March, 1926.

Cheshire County Council Act, 1953, (Sections 75, 76, 87, 115, 116, 132, 144, 145, 147 (2), 148 and Section 98) 2nd April, 1954

Powers under the following sections of the Public Health Acts, (Amendment Act), 1907.

Part II. Sections 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 33. 15th December, 1909.

Sections 28, 29 18th August, 1921.

Section 30 10th December, 1928.

Section 31 2nd March, 1931.

Part VI. Sections 76, 77 15th December, 1909.

VII. Sections 81, 85 29th December, 1908.

X. Section 95 15th December, 1909.

Section 94 20th May, 1935.

Orders of the County Council.

7th November, 1889—Constitution of a Local Board of Health. In 1895 under the provisions of the Local Government Act, 1894, the Hoylake and West Kirby Local Board was superseded by the Urban District Council of Hoylake and West Kirby.

3rd December, 1914—Alteration of the boundaries between the Urban District and the Wirral Rural District and the dividing of the Urban District into four wards.

16th March, 1933—County of Chester Review Order, 1933, adding the Parishes of Caldy, Frankby, Grange, Greasby and part of Saughall Massie, increasing the membership of the Council from 15 to 19 and naming the combined area The Urban District of Hoylake.

21st January, 1937—Membership of the Urban Council increased from 19 to 20, the additional member being assigned to Greasby Ward.

22nd May, 1937—One way Traffic—part of Mill Lane, Greasby.

1st November, 1937—One way Traffic—part of School Lane, Hoylake.

1st September, 1938—Hoylake Closing Order, 1938—Shops in which the sale of meat (other than cooked meat) is carried on.

5th July, 1949—Roads (Traffic Regulation) Order, 1946 (No. 3).

5th July, 1949—Roads (Restriction) Order, 1946 (No. 3).

6th October, 1949—Alteration of Ward Boundaries and increasing the number of Councillors to 22.

5th April, 1950—Traffic Regulation (No. 1) 1949.

5th April, 1950—Traffic Regulation (No. 2) 1949.

4th August, 1950—Traffic Regulation (No. 2) 1950.

24th October, 1953. Traffic Regulation (No. 1) 1953.

Urban Council Bye-Laws and Regulations.

Seashore	....	....	....	....	1899-1950
*Pleasure Boats and Vessels			....	....	1923
*Slaughter Houses	....	....	....	....	1924
Steam Organs, etc.		....	....	....	1925
Meols Parade, North Parade and South					
Parade (Sale and Hawking)	....		....		1927
*Wireless Installations	....		....	....	1928
Cemetery Regulations, Fees, etc.	....		....		1929-1948
Driving Motor Vehicles on the Seashore					1930

West Kirby Foreshore Regulations	1931
New Streets	1936
Newton Common Regulations	1936
Building	1954
Pleasure Grounds	1948
Camping Grounds	1954
Hackney Carriages	1949
Food & Drugs Act, 1938	1950
Hairdressers and Barbers,	1954
Urban Council Orders (part).	
Prevention of Obstruction in Streets Order	1954

*Operative in the former Hoylake and West Kirby Urban District area only.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water.

The water supply of the area and of its several parts has been satisfactory both in quality and quantity.

The District receives its supply partly from the Council's own Waterworks and partly from the West Cheshire Water Board. The sources of supply are deep wells at Grange and Newton in the former case, and from Prenton, Hooton and Mouldsworth in the latter. In both cases the supplies are controlled by quarterly chemical and bacteriological examinations. All supplies are chlorinated, and samples of raw water and of water going into supply after treatment have been examined. All those investigated during the year have proved satisfactory. None of the waters supplied in the area has a plumbo solvent action, and the Analyst's reports have revealed no evidence of contamination in any form.

The Council's supplies have a hardness of 200 and 305, expressed in parts per million, at the Newton and Grange Works respectively, and 215 at the Town Main. Softening of the Council's supply was continued. Softening of the West Cheshire Water Supply is carried out to the extent indicated below:—

Source	Hardness Parts per million	Hardness after Softening Parts per million
Hooton (No. 7 Borehole)	250	Softening Suspended
Mouldsworth	285	„ ..
Prenton	255	„ ..

With the exception of seven houses on Hilbre, one house at Saughall Massie and a cottage in South Ward, public main supplies are in use throughout the area for drinking and domestic and trade purposes. The Children's Convalescent Home, West Kirby, has an independent supply from a borehole 300 feet deep at the Home, and there is also a borehole providing an independent supply at the Deeside Laundry, West Kirby.

Particulars of the number of dwelling houses and of the population supplied from public water mains (a) direct to the house, (b) by means of stand pipes, are given below :-

			Dwelling Houses	Population
(a) House direct	....	....	8,831	31,020
(b) Standpipes	....	...	17	60

Consumption.

The total volume of water pumped from the Council's Waterworks during 1954 was 350,000,000 gallons representing an average consumption of 43 gallons per head per day. This figure includes water used for trade purposes.

The details of the volume supplied to consumers in this area by the West Cheshire Water Board are not available, but it is estimated that consumption was in the order of 34.5 gallons per head per day.

The following are copies of reports on chemical and bacteriological examinations of the supplies :—

Analyst's Report.**WEST CHESHIRE WATER BOARD****Prenton Pumping Station**

Analysis of a sample of Water received on 2nd July, 1954, from West Cheshire Water Board, labelled Prenton Pumping Station. Flamed tap in No. 2 House.

Taken by R. J. Elam. Witness W. Leyland. Date 1/7/54 8.45 a.m.

Chemical Results in parts per million.

Appearance	Bright with a few mineral particles.	Turbidity.....	Less than 3.
Colour	Nil	Odour.....	Nil
pH.....	7.2	Free Carbon Dioxide.....	16
Electric Conductivity.....	590	Total Solids	395
Chlorine present as		Alkalinity as Calcium	
Chloride	78	Carbonate	180
Hardness : Total	255	Carbonate 180 Non-Carbonate 75	
Nitrate Nitrogen	3.6	Nitrite Nitrogen . . .	less than 0.01
Ammoniacal Nitrogen*0.000		Oxygen Absorbed	0.10
Albuminoid Nitrogen*0.000		Residual Chlorine	Absent
Metals—Zinc :	1.2	Other Metals absent.	

*To convert to Ammonia multiply by 1.21

Bacteriological Results

Sampling bottles are treated to remove residual chlorine if present.

Number of Colonies developing on Agar { 1 day at 2 days at 3 days at
37°C. 37°C. 20°C.
0 per ml. 0 per ml. 0 per ml.

	<i>Present in</i>	<i>Absent from</i>	<i>Probable Number</i>
Presumptive Coli-aerogenes Reaction— ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.	
Bact. coli (Type 1) — ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.	
C1. welchii Reaction — ml.	100 ml.		

Report:

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from metals apart from a trace of zinc. The water is hard in character but not to an excessive degree, contains no excess of salinity or mineral constituents in solution and it is of the highest standard of organic and bacterial purity.

These results are indicative of a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes.

(Signed) GORDON MILES.

Analyst's Report.**WEST CHESHIRE WATER BOARD****Hooton Pumping Station.**

Analysis of a sample of Water received on 11th February, 1954, from West Cheshire Water Board, labelled Hooton Pumping Station. No. 7 Borehole.—Flamed tap on rising main.

Taken by R. J. Elam. Witness J. Heath. Date 10/2/54. 12-15 pm.

Chemical Results in parts per million.

Appearance	Bright with very few mineral particles	Metals Absent.	
Colour	Nil	Turbidity	less than 3
pH	7.2	Odour	Nil
Electric Conductivity ...	495	Free Carbon Dioxide	19
Chlorine present as		Total Solids	335
Chloride	31	Alkalinity as Calcium	
Hardness : Total	250	Carbonate	210
Nitrate Nitrogen	3.4	Carbonate 210 Non-Carbonate 40	
Ammoniacal Nitrogen*0.000		Nitrite Nitrogen	Less than 0.01
Albuminoid Nitrogen*0.000		Oxygen Absorbed	0.00
		Residual Chlorine	Absent

*To convert to Ammonia multiply by 1.21

Bacteriological Results:

Sampling bottles are treated to remove residual chlorine if present.

Number of Colonies developing on Agar	{ 1 day at 2 days at 3 days at		
	{ 37°C. 37°C. 20°C.		
	{ 0 per ml. 0 per ml. 4 per ml.		
	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Probable</i>
	<i>in</i>	<i>from</i>	<i>Number</i>
Presumptive Coli-aerogenes Reaction—ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.	
Bact.coli. (Type 1)	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.	
Cl. welchii Reaction	100 ml.		

Report:

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance since it carries only a few particles of matter in suspension.

The water is neutral in reaction, hard in character but not to an excessive degree, contains no excess of salinity or mineral constituents in solution and it is free from iron and other metals.

It is of the highest standard of organic and bacterial purity.

These results are indicative of a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes.

(Signed) GORDON MILES.

Analyst's Report.

WEST CHESHIRE WATER BOARD
Mouldsworth Pumping Station.

Analysis of a sample of water received on 14th January, 1955, from West Cheshire Water Board, labelled Mouldsworth Pumping Station, flamed tap near Cottages.

Taken by R. J. Elam. Witness S. Crawford. Date 13/1/55. 11.40 a.m.

Chemical Results in parts per million.

Appearance Clear and Bright	Turbidity	Nil
Colour	Odour	Nil
pH 7.5	Free Carbon Dioxide	9
Electric Conductivity 1180	Total Solids	790
Chlorine present as	Alkalinity as Calcium	
Chloride 260	Carbonate	195
Hardness : Total 285	Carbonate 195	Non-Carbonate 90
Nitrate Nitrogen 1.8	Nitrite Nitrogen	Absent
Ammoniacal Nitrogen*0.000	Oxygen Absorbed	0.10
Albuminoid Nitrogen*0.000	Residual Chlorine	Absent
Metals : Iron 0.18, Other metals absent.		

*To convert to Ammonia multiply by 1.21

Bacteriological Results.

Sampling bottles are treated to remove residual chlorine if present.

Number of Colonies developing on Agar	{ 1 day at 2 days at 3 days at		
	{ 37 °C. 37 °C. 20 °C.		
	{ 0 per ml. 0 per ml. 0 per ml.		

	<i>Present in</i>	<i>Absent from</i>	<i>Probable Number</i>
Presumptive Coli-aerogenes Reaction	—ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Bact.coli (Type 1)	—ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii Reaction	—ml.	100 ml.	

Report:

This sample is clear and bright in appearance, just on the alkaline side of neutrality and free from metals apart from a minute trace of iron. The water is hard in character but not to an excessive degree and it has a high but not excessive content of mineral constituents in solution. It is of the highest standard of organic and bacterial purity.

These results are indicative of a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes.

(Signed) GORDON MILES.

LIVERPOOL, 3.

13th July, 1954.

Analytical results expressed in parts per million:

Total solid matter in solution	598.4
Oxygen required to oxidise in 15 minutes.....	None
4 hours	None
Ammoniacal nitrogen as N.	None
Albuminoid nitrogen as N.....	None
Nitrous nitrogen as N.	None
Nitric nitrogen as N.....	6.3
Combined chlorine.....	170.0

Carbonate Hardness	....	120
Non-carbonate Hardness	....	185
Total Hardness	....	305

pH Value 7.1

The sample was clear, colourless, and odourless and was free from solid matter in suspension.

Observations:

The results of analysis indicate that the very high state of organic purity remains unaltered.

(Signed) M. ROBERTS,
Assistant City Analyst.

LIVERPOOL, 3.

13th July, 1954.

Report on a sample of water received on 6th July, 1954, from Mr. Harrop marked "Newton Supply."

Analytical results expressed in parts per million:

Total solid matter in solution.....	286.4
Oxygen required to oxidise in 15 minutes	None
4 hours	None
Ammoniacal nitrogen as N.	None
Albuminoid nitrogen as N.	None
Nitrous nitrogen as N.	None
Nitric nitrogen as N.....	3.8
Combined chlorine.....	40.0

Carbonate Hardness	160
Non-carbonate Hardness	40
Total Hardness	200

pH Value 7.4

The sample was clear, colourless and odourless and was free from solid matter in suspension.

Observations:

The results of analysis indicate that the very high state of organic purity remains unaltered.

(Signed) M. ROBERTS,
Assistant City Analyst.

CITY OF LIVERPOOL

CITY ANALYST'S DEPARTMENT,

LIVERPOOL, 3.

13th July, 1954.

Report on a sample of water received on 6th July, 1954, from Mr. Harrop marked "Town Main."

Analytical results expressed in parts per million :

Total solid matter in solution	414.0
Oxygen required to oxidise in....15 minutes	None
..... 4 hours	None
Ammoniacal nitrogen as N.....	0.02
Albuminoid nitrogen as N.	None
Nitrous nitrogen as N.	None
Nitric nitrogen as N.	4.7
Combined chlorine	105.0

Carbonate Hardness	140
Non-Carbonate Hardness	75

Total Hardness 215

pH Value 7.4

The sample was clear, colourless and odourless and was free from solid matter in suspension.

Observations:

The water organically is very pure and well suited for drinking and domestic purposes.

(Signed) M. ROBERTS,

Assistant City Analyst.

BACTERIOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT,
126, MOUNT PLEASANT,
LIVERPOOL, 3.

8th July, 1954.

REPORT ON THREE SAMPLES OF WATER

Date	Description	Bacteria per ml.		B. coli per 100 ml.	Total Coliform Organisms per 100 ml.
		at 37°C.			
6 7 54	Deep Well, Town Mains, Town Hall, Hoylake	0		0	0
"	Deep Well, Tap on Rising Main, Grange Water Works	0		0	0
"	Deep Well, Settling Tank, Newton Pumping Station	0		0	0

(Signed) D. T. ROBINSON,
City Bacteriologist.

Drainage and Sewerage.

A new sewer has been constructed to drain Seabank Cottages, Meols, formerly drained to cesspools.

Several sewer blockages were reported at Greenbank Road, Croft Drive, King's Gap, Croft Drive East and Greasby Road. The obstructions were removed and the sewers cleared.

In October the Meols deep level sewer in Dovepoint Road West collapsed at a point where it is some 20 feet deep, and it was necessary to set up temporary pumping stations to deal with the sewage while repairs were carried out.

Periodic flooding has again occurred in Croft Drive and also in Brookdale Avenue, Greasby, due to the surcharging of the sewer. A scheme for providing temporary relief until the new North Wirral sewer is constructed is under consideration.

An additional 267 houses have been connected to the main sewerage system.

The Consulting Engineers, Messrs. John Taylor & Sons, have submitted their report in connection with the reconstruction of the North Wirral Outfall Sewer and this report is now being considered by the constituent Authorities.

The Hoylake Main Drainage Scheme has been submitted in outline to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and the Council have decided to apply for loan sanction for the first phase of the scheme.

Rivers and Streams.

Because of periodic flooding of the houses in Brookdale Avenue, the Wirral Urban District Council have been requested to remove the screens which were placed in the storm overflow chamber to see whether this will give any relief.

Closet Accommodation.

Thirty-one dwellings, including seventeen which are occupied as summer dwellings, are provided with closets other than water closets.

Open Spaces.

The District has some 225.5 acres of public open space.

Public Cleansing.

Refuse is collected from every dwelling-house each week, and from certain other premises three times each week. A bi-weekly collection is also made from schools and public institutions.

Statistics.

Number of premises, excluding R.A.F. Camp, West Kirby, from which refuse was collected	....	....	9,036
Number of bins, including R.A.F. Camp, West Kirby			10,296
Weight of refuse collected per annum	....	....	8,732 tons
Average length of haul to tip	....	....	2½ miles
Net cost of collection and disposal per 1,000 premises visited (per visit)			£36
Net cost of collection and disposal per 1,000 bins collected (per collection)	..	....	£32

Salvage Collected.

			Tons	Cwts.	Qtrs.	£
Paper	....	....	357	9	0	2,426
Textiles	....	....	4	15	3	58
Baled Tins	..	....	35	4	3	122
Total			397	9	2	£2,606

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Number and Nature of Inspections Made	Notices Served		Result of Service of Notices	
	Statutory	Informal	Complied With	Outstanding
Dwelling Houses (P.H.A.) .. 1292	75	171	237	9
" " (H.A. Repair) 7	—	1	1	—
" " (H.A. Overcrowding) 3	—	—	—	—
" " (H.A. Representations) 222	—	2	2	—
" " Certs. of Disrepair 32	—	4	4	—
Infectious Disease 22	—	—	—	—
Disinfection 18	—	—	—	—
Temporary and Movable Dwellings 34	—	1	1	—
Camping 2	—	—	—	—
Privies, Earthclosets 9	—	4	4	—
Cesspools, Septic Tanks 17	—	1	1	—
Drainage 207	40	70	108	2
Ditches, Watercourses 17	—	8	8	—
Offensive Accumulations 44	—	8	6	2
Keeping of Animals 31	—	1	1	—
Food Premises—Butchers' Shops 141	—	14	14	—
Bakehouses 70	—	14	14	—
Ice Cream Premises 18	—	—	—	—
Dairies 32	—	4	4	—
Other Premises 795	—	60	60	—
Milk Sampling 143	—	—	—	—
Ice Cream Sampling 42	—	—	—	—
Factories 261	1	6	7	—
Workshops 40	—	1	1	—
Shops Act 5	—	—	—	—
Offices —	—	—	—	—
Schools 11	—	—	—	—
Public Conveniences 1	—	1	1	—
Licensed Premises 27	—	—	—	—
Places of Entertainment 20	—	3	3	—
Smoke Observations 4	—	1	1	—
Rat Infestations 1174	—	—	—	—
Verminous Premises 31	—	—	—	—
Water Supply 22	—	—	—	—
Swimming Pools 8	—	—	—	—
Hairdressers and Barbers 70	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous 334	—	4	4	—
Totals 5206	116	379	482	13

Factories Act, 1937 & 1948.

Inspections.

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	29	59	3	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	64	136	10	—
(3) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	22	13	2	—
Total	115	208	15	—

Defects Found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	12	10	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	2	2	—	2	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	13	11	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	—	—	—	—	—
Total	27	23	—	3	—

Factories Act, 1937 and 1948.

Three laundries, two artificial tooth factories and a brickworks comprise the only industrial establishments of any size in the district, but by virtue of the use of mechanical power, numerous small businesses such as Shoe Repairers, Bakehouses and Garages are subject to inspections under the category of "factories." A copy of the return made to the Ministry of Labour is reproduced on page 30.

Licensed Premises.

The majority of licensed premises in the district are of modern construction or have been modernised recently, and all are provided with hot water for glass washing.

Shops.

During the year, by virtue of the publication of the 1951 Census figures, Hoylake U.D.C. became the Shops authority under the Shops Acts.

Camping Sites and Movable Dwellings.

The Council has consented to the use of one area of land in Greasby for camping, controlled through the medium of the Hoylake Urban District Council Act, 1935, and bye-laws made thereunder. The occupation of caravans on this site is limited by the proprietor to 6 months of the year.

Smoke Abatement.

Routine smoke observations were made. No serious smoke nuisance was reported. All hard fired furnaces are stoked by mechanical means. The installation of an electric pre-heater at one laundry has greatly reduced solid fuel consumption and smoke emission.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

There are two open-air public swimming baths in the district, Hoylake Baths and the West Kirby Marine Lake.

Filtration and chlorination plants are installed at the former and the water of both baths is subjected to periodical bacteriological and chemical examination.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Number of houses found to be infested :-

(a)	Council houses	....	....	....	....	....	4
(b)	Other houses	....	....	....	....	....	1

Number of houses disinfested :-

(a)	Council houses	..	....	....	....	....	4
(b)	Other houses	....	....	....	....	....	1

Method employed :—Spraying with D.D.T. Insecticide.

Schools.

All schools in the district are supplied with water from the public supplies and all are provided with water closets. There are 2 Graminar, 1 Secondary and 3 Primary schools belonging to the County Authority with 3 controlled C. of E. and 1 C. of E. outside County control. Also there are 2 boarding schools and 8 private schools.

Housing.

279 units of accommodation were provided by the Council and private enterprise during 1954 compared with 171 during 1953.

Of this number, 16 new houses were erected by the Council, and 251 houses and 12 flats by private enterprise.

During the year the following progress has been made :—

Description	Local Authority	Private Enterprise	Total
Number of new houses erected during 1954	16	251	267
Number of flats provided in 1954	—	12	12
Total	16	263	279

The following table indicates the progress made since the 1st August, 1945, when the Ministry of Health authorised the commencement of housing programmes :—

Description	Local Authority	Private Enterprise	Total
Number of new houses erected since 1st August, 1945	591	564	1155
Number of war damaged houses erected since 1st August, 1945	—	10	10
Number of flats provided since 1st August, 1945	26	309	335
Totals	617	883	1500

One Demolition Order was made and one Undertaking accepted following Official Representation under the provisions of the Housing Acts 1936 to 1954.

One undertaking was cancelled after the premises had been made fit for human habitation.

An Official Representation was made at the end of the year in respect of property in Caldly Road, West Kirby, and the Council resolved to treat the area as a Clearance Area under the provisions of section 25 of the Housing Act, 1936.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

With the exception of one producer-retailer, who distributes Accredited milk, all raw milk retailed in the district is Tuberculin Tested. All other milk is Pasteurised. A very small quantity of bottled milk sold in general shops is Sterilized.

Nineteen distributors are registered in the district, to whom licences for the sale of designated milk have been issued as follows:—

<i>Tuberculin</i>				
<i>Tested: Pasteurised: Sterilized:</i>				
Dealer's Licences :	....	15	15	9
Supplementary Licences :	....	3	3	2

The 8 primary, 2 grammar and 8 private schools are all served with Pasteurised Milk. Milk to the 4 local institutions admitting children is Tuberculin Tested or Pasteurised.

Milk Sampling.

Examination of all samples of milk retailed in the district continues to be carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service at Birkenhead. Regular monthly samples of Pasteurised milk for phosphatase test from all sources of supply have been submitted.

A table, giving the results of samples taken during the year, is given overleaf.

Designation	Number of Samples	Methylene Blue		Phosphatase		Tubercle Bacilli		Turbidity	
		Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed	Positive	Negative	Passed	Failed
Sterilised	13	13	—	13	—	—	—	13	—
Pasteurised	54	54	—	53	1	—	—	—	—
Accredited	9	6	3	—	—	9	—	—	—
Ungraded	2	2	—	2	—	2	—	—	—
Tuberculin Tested ..	24	23	1	—	—	24	—	—	—
T. T. Pasteurised ..	50	48	2	49	1	—	—	—	—
Totals	152	146	6	117	2	35	—	13	—

Meat and Other Foods.

Meat Inspection.

Methods of distribution of meat from slaughterhouses and markets to shops are satisfactory. With the termination of centralised slaughtering in July distribution became more varied and maintained the high standard with specially designed vehicles and hygienic methods. There are no slaughterhouses in the district.

Meat surrendered during the year amounted to 260 lb. comprising 196 lb. due to bone taint and 64 lb. due to decomposition owing to a breakdown in refrigerator mechanism.

Butchers' shops continue to receive routine visits and the fourteen informal notices involving repairs, cleansing, etc., have been complied with.

Food Premises.

The number of visits to food premises remained at high level and in general good standards were maintained. All notices were complied with.

Plans received by the Engineer and Surveyor's Department relating to food premises were referred to this Department for consideration.

151 surrender notes were issued relative to unsound food, details of which are appended, disposal being carried out with due consideration to salvage.

Commodity Surrendered	Quantity	Unfit for consumption by reason of
Apricot Pulp	10 lbs.	Perforated tin
Cheese....	45 pkts.	Decomposition
Coffee	1 bot.	Damaged container
Cream	5 tins	Blown tins
Fish	5 lbs.	Decomposition
Fish, tinned	11 tins	Blown, rusted or perforated tins
Flour	7 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.	Mite infested
Fruit, Prunes....	18 lbs.	Mould
Fruit, tinned	143 tins	Blown or perforated tins
Jam, jars	20 lbs.	Damaged containers
Jam, tinned	3 tins	Blown tins
Macaroni	3 tins	Perforated tins
Meat	260 lbs.	Bone taint and decomposition
Meat, tinned	63 tins	Blown or perforated tins
Milk, tinned	56 tins	Blown tins
Mustard	4 tins	Unwholesome due to damp
Oats	4 lbs.	Mould
Pickles	2 jars	Damaged containers
Sauce	3 bots.	Damaged containers
Sausage	8 lbs.	Sour
Soup	11 tins	Blown or perforated tins
Sugar	16 lbs.	Contaminated by mice
Vegetables, Cauliflower	48	Unwholesome
" Dried Carrots	10 lbs.	Unwholesome
" Lentils	14 lbs.	Mould
" Tinned	123 tins	Blown or perforated tins
" Tomato puree	10 lbs.	Blown tin
Vermicelli	15 lbs.	Unwholesome
Vinegar	1 bot.	Damaged container

Ice Cream.

There are two local manufacturers on the register, both self suppliers and each adopting the cold mix method of manufacture.

There are one hundred and five dealers on the register and ten manufacturers outside the district supplying local retailers.

Thirty-two samples were submitted to the Bacteriologist for grading and the results are given below:—

Source of Supply:	Number of samples	Grade:			
		1.	2.	3.	4.
Local	4	4	—	—	—
External	28	27	1	—	—

Adulteration.

This work is undertaken by the Cheshire County Council.

List of Samples taken in the Hoylake Urban District under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, during the year ended 31st December, 1954.

Name of Sample	Number Obtained	Number adulterated or not up to the recognised standard of quality
Arrowroot	1	—
Almonds, ground	1	—
Brewers Yeast	1	—
Butter	1	—
Boric Acid Ointment	1	—
Bi-carbonate of Soda	1	—
Boracic Acid Powder	2	—
Brandy	1	—
Coffee	1	—
Camphorated Oil	2	1
Currants	1	—
Cinnamon and Quinine	1	—
Corn Flour	1	—
Charcoal Biscuits	1	—
Cheese & Tomato Spread	1	—
Chilblain Oil	1	—
Dripping	1	—
Desiccated Coconut	1	—
Fish Paste	1	—
Gees Linctus	1	—
Glucose D Lozenges	1	—
Grape Fruit Juice	1	—
Honey	1	—
Jam	1	—
Milks	49	2
Mint Jelly	1	—
Mustard Sauce	1	—
Margarine	1	—
Mincedmeat	1	—
Olive Oil	1	—
Orange Squash	1	—
Pineapple Juice	1	—
Raisins	1	—
Rum	1	—
Suet	2	—
Scidlitz Powder	1	—
Strawberry Syrup	1	—
Salt (non-toxic)	1	1
Senna Pods	1	—
Sugarless Pastilles	1	—
Tomato Cocktail	1	—
Whisky	1	—
Totals	93	4

Particulars of non-standard samples
Hoylake Urban District.

No.	Sample	Analysis	Remarks
1	Milk (Channel Islands)	10% deficient in fat	Contained 3.6% fat. Particulars sent to Ministry of Food in accordance with instructions contained in Circular M.F.8/48.
2	Milk	6.6% deficient in fat	Cautioned. Two other samples of different types taken at same time were genuine.
3	Salt (Non-toxic)	Prepared table salt the label of which does not conform to regulations of Labelling of Food Order, 1953	The label of this article claimed the presence of phosphorus (as magnesium phosphate), iodine and iron but it did not specify the minimum quantities as required. Full particulars were sent to the Food and Drugs Inspector of the area in which article was manufactured and as a result of his representation a new and correct label is now being used.
4	Camphorated Oil	5.2% deficient in Camphor	Purchased from a Chemist's shop. Manufacturer was cautioned and remaining stock withdrawn from sale.

Shellfish.

The supply of cockles from the foreshore has been steadily diminishing in recent years, and there seems little prospect of increased supply in the future.

An Order under the Shellfish Regulations is operative over an area extending from the Red Stones to the Northward boundary of the district. It is administered by the Liverpool Port Health Authority.

Food Poisoning Outbreaks.

No outbreaks of food poisoning were reported during the year.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

One wholetime ratcatcher is employed who, in addition to clearing specific cases of infestation reported, is also engaged upon routine treatment of refuse tips, sewers and other likely focal points of infestation.

Sewer treatment, involving the test-baiting of manholes, is carried out each half year.

The number of cases of infestation at non-agricultural premises attended to was 176.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

284 cases of notifiable diseases, other than tuberculosis, occurred during the year. Details of these are given in the table overleaf.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) for the Year 1954.

Disease	Number of Cases Notified										Cases ad- mitted to Hos- pital	Deaths
	Total	At ages—Years										
		Under 1	1—3	3—5	5—10	10—15	15—25	25—45	45—65	65 & over		
Scarlet Fever 	18	—	1	2	10	3	2	—	—	—	5	—
Pneumonia 	9	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	2	2	—	11
Measles 	237	7	22	59	137	9	3	—	—	—	2	—
Whooping Cough 	11	1	2	3	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas 	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—
Dysentery 	4	—	1	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Malaria 	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
TOTALS 	284	8	26	65	152	13	11	2	4	3	8	12

Prevention of Blindness.

No action has been taken by the District Council under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for the prevention of blindness or for the treatment of persons suffering from any disease or injury to the eyes.

This work is undertaken in the District by the Cheshire County Council.

Tuberculosis.

No action has been taken during 1954 under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, relating to the compulsory removal to a hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

New Cases and Mortality during 1954.

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— 5 years	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15 years	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
15—25 years	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	—
25—35 years	1	3	—	1	1	2	—	—
35—45 years	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55 years	2	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
55—65 years	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 years and over ...	3	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
TOTALS	8	10	1	2	1	4	—	1

Note:

Of the total deaths from tuberculosis 33.3% had not been notified.

Tuberculosis.

	PULMONARY			NON-PULMONARY			Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary TOTAL
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	
Number of cases of Tuberculosis on the Register at the beginning of 1954.	69	50	119	11	11	22	141
Number of cases notified under the Regulations for the first time during 1954.	4	7	11	—	2	2	13
Number of cases removed from the Register during a preceding year which have been restored to the Register during the year.	—	1	1	—	—	—	1
Number of cases added to the Register during the year which have been brought to notice otherwise than by Notification under the Regulations.	4	2	6	1	—	1	7
Number of cases removed from the Register during the year.	6	4	10	—	1	1	11
Number of cases remaining on the Register at 31st December, 1954.	71	56	127	12	12	24	151

NESTON URBAN DISTRICT.

Neston was constituted an Urban District in 1894 and was extended on 1st April, 1933, by the inclusion of the Parish of Ness and parts of the Parishes of Burton, Puddington, Eastham, Willaston, Raby and Thornton Hough.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (acres)	8,497
Registrar-General's Estimate of Resident Population (mid-1954)	10,060
Number of inhabited houses	3,275
Rateable value	£82,216
Sum represented by a penny rate	£330

The area is residential and agricultural. The aforetime occupation of fishing still predominates at Parkgate. There are a number of scholastic institutions. Light industries of a type new to the district have been established.

The natural increase of a population is the excess of births over deaths. The following table shows the condition 1945—1954 in Neston :—

Year	Population	Natural Increase per 1,000 of Population
1945	8,715	45 more births than deaths +5.2
1946	9,212	61 more births than deaths +6.6
1947	9,288	89 more births than deaths +9.6
1948	9,513	59 more births than deaths +6.2
1949	9,626	42 more births than deaths +4.4
1950	9,816	21 more births than deaths +2.1
1951	9,785	9 more births than deaths +0.9
1952	9,870	43 more births than deaths +4.4
1953	9,922	49 more births than deaths +4.9
1954	10,060	40 more births than deaths +4.0

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the year 1954.

These statistics are calculated on a population of 10,060, the estimate furnished by the Registrar-General.

Live Births.				Total	Males	Females
Legitimate	....	....	....	145	75	70
Illegitimate	....	....	....	5	3	2
Totals	....	....	....	150	78	72
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population						14.9
Birth Rate for England and Wales						15.2
Birth Rate in 160 Smaller Towns (resident population 25,000—50,000 at 1951 census)						15.5

Stillbirths.				Total	Males	Females
Legitimate	....	....	....	2	1	1
Illegitimate	....	....	....	—	—	—
Totals	....	....	....	2	1	1
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births						13.2
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births for England and Wales						24.0

Deaths.				Total	Males	Females
				110	57	53
Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population						10.9
Death Rate for England and Wales						11.3
Death Rate for 160 Smaller Towns (resident population 25,000—50,000 at 1951 census)						11.3

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births
Pregnancy, Childbirth		
Abortion ..	Nil	—

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age:—

	Total	Males	Females
Legitimate	2	2	—
Illegitimate	1	1	—
Totals	3	3	—

All infants per 1,000 live births ...	20.0
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	13.8
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	200.0
Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales ...	25.5
Infant Mortality Rate for 160 Smaller Towns (resident population 25,000—50,000 at 1951 census)	23.8

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	17
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	Nil

Number of Deaths during Years 1945—1954.		
Year	Number	Rate per 1,000 per annum.
1945	94	10.8
1946	112	12.2
1947	106	11.4
1948	95	9.9
1949	123	12.8
1950	129	13.1
1951	128	13.1
1952	100	10.1
1953	103	10.4
1954	110	10.9

Deaths at Various Ages During 1954.	
Age	Number of Deaths
Under 1 year	3
1 year and under 2	—
2 years and under 5	—
5 years and under 15	—
15 years and under 25	1
25 years and under 35	1
35 years and under 45	5
45 years and under 55	8
55 years and under 65	15
65 years and under 75	26
75 years and under 85	38
85 years and over	13
Total	110

Table of Infantile Mortality, 1945–1954.

Death rate of infants under 1 year of age (per 1,000 live births) :—

Year	Neston	England and Wales
1945	43.2	46
1946	57.8	43
1947	61.5	41
1948	12.9	34
1949	24.2	32
1950	46.7	29.8
1951	43.8	29.6
1952	49.0	27.6
1953	32.9	26.8
1954	20.0	25.5

The Infant Mortality Rate in the 160 Smaller Towns was 23.8 in 1954.

Infantile Deaths.

The causes of death of children under the age of one year are shown below.

Cause of Death	Under 1 week	1—2 weeks	2—3 weeks	3—4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3—6 months	6—9 months	9—12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
Accidental	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1
Other defined and Ill defined Diseases	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Total	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3

Causes of Death.

The table below was compiled from figures supplied by the Registrar-General, and the classification is given according to the cause of death.

Cause of Death	Males	Females	Total
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	—	1
2. Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic Disease	1	—	1
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
7. Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—
8. Measles	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	2	4
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	6	1	7
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	2	2
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	—	—
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	2	2	4
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	—	—
16. Diabetes	—	—	—
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	11	15	26
18. Coronary disease, angina	6	9	15
19. Hypertension with heart disease	2	3	5
20. Other heart disease	5	5	10
21. Other circulatory disease	6	2	8
22. Influenza	—	2	2
23. Pneumonia	2	2	4
24. Bronchitis	1	—	1
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	—	—	—
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	—	—	—
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	1	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	1	1	2
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	—	—	—
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—
31. Congenital malformations	—	—	—
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	5	5	10
33. Motor vehicle accidents	1	1	2
34. All other accidents	3	—	3
35. Suicide	2	—	2
36. Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—
TOTALS	57	53	110

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1954 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year	Population Estimated Mid-Year	LIVE BIRTHS			DEATHS							Natural Increase (Excess of Births over Deaths)				
		Number	Rate	Rate England & Wales	Total Number Registered in District	Transferable		Under 1 year of age			At all ages					
						Of Non-Residents Registered in District	Of Residents Not Registered in District	Number	Rate per 1,000 Live Births	Rate England & Wales	Number		Rate	Standard Rate for Comparison with England & Wales	Rate England & Wales	
1945	8,715	139	16.0	16.1	71	9	32	6	43.2	46	94	10.8			11.4	+ 45
1946	9,212	173	18.8	19.1	85	13	40	10	57.8	43	112	12.2			11.5	+ 61
1947	9,288	195	20.9	20.5	80	17	43	12	61.5	41	106	11.4			12.0	+ 89
1948	9,513	154	16.2	17.9	68	5	32	2	12.9	34	95	9.9			10.8	+ 59
1949	9,626	165	17.1	16.7	103	16	36	4	24.2	32	123	12.8	11.5	11.7	11.7	+ 42
1950	9,816	150	15.3	15.8	110	18	37	7	46.7	29.8	129	13.1	11.7	11.6	11.6	+ 21
1951	9,785	137	14.0	15.5	102	14	40	6	43.8	29.6	128	13.1	11.7	12.5	12.5	+ 9
1952	9,870	143	14.5	15.3	75	16	41	7	49.0	27.6	100	10.1	9.0	11.3	11.3	+ 43
1953	9,922	152	15.3	15.5	74	10	39	5	32.9	34.2	103	10.4	9.2	11.4	11.4	+ 49
1954	10,060	150	14.9	15.2	116	26	20	3	20.0	25.5	110	10.9	9.8	11.3	11.3	+ 40

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Public Health Officers.

Details are given on page 3.

Laboratory Facilities.

Investigations of a Public Health nature are undertaken by the Birkenhead and Liverpool branches of the Ministry of Health Laboratory Service. A clinical pathology service is provided by the Regional Hospital Board in the laboratories at the Clatterbridge General Hospital.

Food and drugs throughout the district are still submitted for analysis to the Cheshire County Laboratory. The samples are taken by County Officers.

Ambulance Facilities.

The Cheshire County Council is the ambulance authority for this area. There has been a great increase in the demand for ambulance and hospital transport, and it has been necessary to provide for a considerable expansion of the service in order to meet the increased volume of work.

The ambulance service is operated from Broomfield, Meols Drive, Hoylake, and Sandymount, Telegraph Road, Heswall—(telephone Hoylake 2970).

Nursing in the Home.

This service is now provided by the Cheshire County Council and three District Nurse Midwives and one Midwife are employed to serve this Urban District.

Treatment Centres and Clinics.

Scabies treatment is given by arrangement in the Out-Patients' Department of the Neston Cottage Hospital.

The following Clinics are provided by the Cheshire County Council :-

Place.	Each Month.	Time.
School Clinic.		
Clinic Centre, Mellock Lane, Neston	... Every Tuesday	9 a.m.

Place	Each Month	Time.
Child Welfare.		
Clinic Centre, Mellock Lane, Neston	 Every Thursday	1-30 p.m.
Red Cross Depot, Willaston	 1st and 3rd Fridays	2-0 p.m.

Ante-Natal.

The Ante-Natal Clinics are provided by the Cheshire County Council in conjunction with the Central Wirral Hospital Management Committee and are held at :—

Clinic Centre, Mellock Lane, Neston	 Every Monday	9-0 a.m.
(The County Health Visitors and Midwives are in attendance)		

Ear, Nose and Throat.

Clatterbridge Hospital	Every Thursday	4 to 5 p.m. children
	Every Friday	10-30 a.m. to 12 noon Adults. 3-30 to 4-30 p.m. Children.

Paediatric.

Clinic Centre, Neston	Every Thursday	1-45 p.m.
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Ophthalmic.

Clinic Centre, Neston	1st Wednesday	9-0 a.m.
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Speech Therapy.

Clinic Centre, Neston	Every Thursday	9-0 a.m. to 12-0 noon.
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Dental.

Clinic Centre, Neston	Every Tuesday ...	9-0 a.m. to 12-0 noon
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Place.	Each Month.	Time.
Tuberculosis Dispensary.		
42 Hamilton Square, Birkenhead	Every Tuesday	2-0 p.m. to 5-0 p.m.
	Every Thursday	10-0 a.m. to 5-0 p.m.
	Every Friday	2-0 p.m. to 5-0 p.m.
Venereal Diseases.		
St. James Hospital, Tollemache Road, Birkenhead. (Clinic Annexe)	Every Monday	2-0 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Male and Female.
	Every Wednesday	10-0 a.m. to 12 Noon. Male and Female.
		2-0 p.m. to 6-30 p.m. Male and Female.
	Every Friday	2-0 p.m. to 6-30 p.m. Male and Female.
Chester Royal Infirmary	Every Monday	5 p.m. Female
	Every Wednesday	5 p.m. Male
	Every Thursday	5 p.m. Female
	Every Saturday	12 noon Male.

Hospitals.

The Neston and District War Memorial Cottage Hospital has 52 beds and two cots. It is equipped for general surgery and has Massage and Out-Patient Departments. It is staffed by local medical practitioners and visiting consultants. The Hospital is controlled by the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board and is in the area of the Central Wirral Hospital Management Committee. Other hospitals managed by the Board are available to local residents. The hospitals at Clatterbridge still admit a number of patients from this area and others go to the hospitals of Birkenhead, Liverpool and Chester. The Smallpox Hospital for treatment of cases of this disease is at New Ferry.

National Assistance Act, 1948.

This Act gives power to Local Sanitary Authorities to arrange for removal to hospital under a Justice's order of aged and infirm persons who are not able to look after themselves and who are not receiving proper care and attention. Much time and patience are needed in order to help these old people and a number of such cases have been investigated. Experience has shown that the provisions of this Section are not very effective mainly because of the serious shortage of hospital and other accommodation for the infirm and chronic sick.

Mortuaries.

There is a mortuary at the Neston and District War Memorial Cottage Hospital.

Legislation in Force.

Adopted Acts.

1. Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1890 (Parts 3, 4).
2. Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1907.
3. Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts 1900.
4. Public Health Act 1925, Part 2, except s. 20, and Part 6.

Bye-Laws.

1. New Streets and Buildings 1930.
2. Offensive Trades 1929.
3. Drainage of Buildings 1933.
4. Slaughterhouses 1937.
5. Nuisances 1938.
6. Buildings 1953.
7. Food, 1950.
8. Tents, Vans, Sheds, 1952.
9. The prevention of waste etc. of water, made under Section 17 of the Water Act, 1945.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water.

The water supply of the area and of its several parts has been satisfactory both in quality and quantity.

The Council supplies water from its own pumping stations to the area of the former Neston and Parkgate Urban District Council whilst the area ceded from the late Wirral Rural District in 1933 is supplied by the West Cheshire Water Board.

Mostyn House School has a private supply of water from an artesian well at the school, and there is also an independent supply from a deep well at the Neston Laundry.

None of the waters supplied has a plumbo-solvent action and the Analyst's reports have revealed no evidence of contamination.

The Council's supply is not softened. It has a hardness of 224 expressed in parts per million at the waterworks situate at Lees Lane, Little Neston.

Every house, with one exception, has a piped supply from the public mains. Details are given below :-

	Dwelling Houses	Population
(a) House direct	3,275	10,060
(b) Standpipes	—	—

Consumption.

The volume of water pumped from the Council's Waterworks is estimated to represent a consumption of approximately 42 gallons per head per day.

The details of the volume supplied to consumers in this area by the West Cheshire Water Board are not available, but it is estimated that consumption was in the order of 30 gallons per head per day.

The following are copies of reports on bacteriological examinations of samples taken from the Council's wells during the year:

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY,
HAMILTON SQUARE,
BIRKENHEAD.

WATER.
Bacteriological Examination Report.

Authority or Sender :Neston U.D.C.

Lab. Ref. No. 329
Sender's Ref No. 4

Nature of Sample: Bore Pumping Station, Gorstons, Little Neston

Date of collection : 10/6/54.

Date of arrival : 10/6/54.

Plate Count. Yeastrel agar 2 days 37°C. aerobically 2 per ml.

Probable number of coliform bacilli, MacConkey

2 days, 37 °C —per 100 ml.

Probable number of faecal coli —per 100 ml.

Remarks : Satisfactory.

Date of Report: 14th June, 1954.

WATER.
Bacteriological Examination Report.

Authority or Sender :--Neston U.D.C.

Lab. Ref. No. 328
Sender's Ref. No. 3

Nature of Sample: Bore, Lees Lane, Little Neston.

Date and hour of collection : 10/6/54. 10.50 a.m.

Date of arrival : 10/6/55.

Plate Count. Yeastrel agar 2 days 37 °C. aerobically 1 per ml.

Probable number of coliform bacilli, MacConkey

2 days, 37 °C —per 100 ml.

Probable number of faecal coli —per 100 ml.

Remarks : Satisfactory.

Date of Report: 14th June, 1954.

Drainage and Sewerage.

A preliminary report on the proposal to provide sewerage facilities in the village of Burton was under discussion during the year.

In other parts of the district the extension of public sewers is necessary to deal with properties, some 280 in number, at present draining to septic tanks. Where there are colonies of such dwellings, the disposal of the septic tank effluents becomes a distinct embarrassment, and the pollution of ditches is almost unavoidable.

Rivers and Streams.

There is no gross pollution of streams. The diversion of sewage effluent from a stream in the Willaston area has removed a constant source of nuisance.

Closet Accommodation.

In rural parts of the district remote from sewers a number of pail closets and chemical closets are in use.

Open Spaces.

The District has some 68.0 acres of public open space.

Public Cleansing.

Two motor vehicles of modern type are employed. Disposal is controlled by tipping. Increasing development will necessitate additional equipment if a weekly service is to be given in all parts of the district.

Salvage.

The following table shows the weight and value of the material returned to industry during this year.

Material	Weight			Value		
	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	153	14	2	1147	11	10
Rags	6	6	3	158	8	9
Ferrous Metal .	6	15	0	27	0	0
Non-ferrous Metal	1	0	0	60	0	0
	167	16	1	£1393	0	7

The weight and value of material salvaged since 1939 is :—

Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	£	s.	d.
1170	4	3	9175	6	9

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Number and Nature of Inspections Made	Notices Served		Result of Service of Notice		Prosecutions	
	Statutory	Informal	Complied With	Outstanding	Instituted	Pending
Dwelling houses :						
Inspected 228	1	86	72	15	—	—
Re infectious disease.... 105	—	4	4	—	—	—
Housing Acts on complaints 48	2	17	18	1	—	—
House to house inspection 102	3	28	25	6	—	—
Overcrowding 86	—	6	6	—	—	—
Tents, vans and sheds 23	—	3	3	—	—	—
Factories 90	—	7	7	—	—	—
Theatres and cinemas.... 6	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cowsheds —	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dairies 77	—	—	—	—	—	—
Milk samples 65	—	6	6	—	—	—
Premises used for preparation of food 364	—	47	43	4	—	—
Fried fish shops 6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ice cream premises 12	—	2	2	—	—	—
Water samples 8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Keeping of animals 28	1	5	6	—	—	—
Schools 20	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sewers, ventilators, etc. 4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Back passages 3	—	1	1	—	—	—
Drains inspected —	—	—	—	—	—	—
„ smoke tested 3	—	1	1	—	—	—
„ water tested —	—	—	—	—	—	—
Septic tanks and cess- pools 48	—	8	7	1	—	—
Refuse collection and disposal 414	—	—	—	—	—	—
Offensive accumulations 31	9	9	—	—	—	—
Rats and mice des- truction 453	—	78	78	—	—	—
Pools, ditches and watercourses 54	—	3	3	—	—	—
Privy middens.... 1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Public conveniences 3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ashpits and bins 106	—	16	15	1	—	—
Control of civil building 23	—	—	—	—	—	—
Smoke observations 13	—	4	4	—	—	—
Soil samples for patho- genesis 9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total 2,412	7	332	304	28	—	—

Factories Act, 1937 & 1948.

Inspections				
Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	12	40	1	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	35	61	6	—
(3) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	15	27	3	—
Total	62	128	10	—

Defects found					
Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	3	3	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	1	1	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	4	4	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	—	—	—	—	—
Total	10	10	—	—	—

Factories Act, 1937 & 1948.

The factories in the district have been visited from time to time and the attention of the occupiers has been directed to those matters necessary to secure compliance with the Act.

Shops and Offices.

Inspections under Section 10 of the Shops Act, 1934, were made to secure compliance therewith.

Camping Sites.

No licences were granted under Sections 268 and 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Smoke Abatement and Atmospheric Pollution

In one instance it was necessary to draw attention to the need to reduce the amount of smoke emitted from a factory chimney. The installation of an induced draught system resulted in a distinctive improvement.

Complaints were received about the emission of sulphur gases from factories on the Welsh coast. This matter was referred to the Government Inspector of Alkalis and an assurance was received that all practicable steps would be taken to minimize such emissions.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Number of houses found to be infested:—

(a) Council Houses	...	....	..	....	None
(b) Other Houses	....	...	....	...	None

Number of Houses Disinfested:—

(a) Council Houses	....	.	—	...	None
(b) Other Houses	....	...	..	.	None

Schools.

Detailed improvement has taken place in conditions at the Ness Holt C. of E. (Controlled) School, subsequent to the School becoming controlled. Other Schools in the district have also been the subject of improvement.

Housing.

During the year the following progress has been made :—

Description	Local Authority	Private Enterprise	Total
Number of new houses erected during 1954 :—			
(a) Permanent 	82	60	142
(b) Temporary 	—	—	—
Number of flats provided in 1954 ...	—	2	2
Totals 	82	62	144

The progress made since the building programme commenced is shown below :—

Description	Local Authority	Private Enterprise	Total
Number of new houses erected since 1st August, 1945 :—			
(a) Permanent 	338	176	514
(b) Temporary 	75	—	75
Number of flats provided since 1st August, 1945 	—	21	21
Totals 	413	197	610

Three dwellings were the subject of demolition orders made under the Housing Acts and were demolished.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

Supervision of the production of milk was transferred to the Ministry of Agriculture at the end of 1949. Close liaison is maintained with the Milk Production Officer of the Ministry.

The following licences were issued under The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1954 :—

Supplementary Licence to use designation	
Tuberculin Tested	1
Supplementary Licence to use designation	
Pasteurised	3
Dealer's Licences (Pasteurised and Sterilised)	4
,, ,, raw milk (Tuberculin Tested)	2
Supplementary Licences (Heat Treated)	3
,, ,, (raw Milk)	1
	—
Total	14
	—

Results of Examination of Milk Supplies.

Designation	Number of Samples	Methylene Blue Test		Phosphatase Test		Biological	
		Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed	Positive	Negative
T.T.	32	30	2	—	—	—	32
T.T. Past.	21	20	1	20	1	—	—
Pasteurised ...	12	12	—	12	—	—	—
Totals	65	62	3	32	1	—	32

Meat and Other Foods.

The following sets out the quantity of foodstuffs found not to be fit for human consumption :—

Article Condemned	Weight in lbs.	Reason for Condemnation
Canned Meat and Meat Products	75	Decomposition blown and punctured containers
Canned Milk	9	Blown
Canned Fruit	37	Blown
Canned Vegetables	43	Blown
Cereals	32	Weevil infested
Beef (home killed)	112	Bone taint
Potato Powder	182	Sour
Total weight in lbs.	490	

Condemnation certificates in the form requested by the Ministry of Food were supplied in each case, and the condemned material was appropriately dealt with, due regard being had to the terms of Ministry of Health Circular 2886 of 17th November, 1943, in this connection.

Slaughter of Animals Acts, 1933-1954.

There are five licensed slaughtermen.

Adulteration.

This work is undertaken by the Cheshire County Council.

List of Samples taken in the Neston Urban District under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, during the year ended 31st December, 1954.

Name of Sample	Number Obtained	Number adulterated or not up to the recognised standard of quality
Almonds, Ground ..	1	—
Condensed Milk ..	1	—
Cheese	1	—
Cheese Spread with Ham	1	—
Desiccated Coconut	1	—
Fish Paste	1	—
Jam	1	—
Lemon Curd	1	—
Milks	16	—
Margarine	1	—
Orange Squash	1	—
Rum	1	—
Suet	1	—
Sausage	1	—
Table Jelly	1	—
Vinegar, Malt	1	—
Totals ..	31	—

Ice Cream.

Time taken to reduce Methylene Blue (hrs.)	No. of Specimens reducing Methylene Blue	No. of Specimens with						Provisional Grade
		Presumptive Coliforms		Faecal Coli		Staphylococcus Aureus		
		Present	Absent	Present	Absent	Present	Absent	
4½ or more	12	—	12	—	12	—	12	1
2½ — 4	Nil	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
½ — 2	Nil	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
0	Nil	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Total	12	—	12	—	12	—	12	

Shellfish.

There are no layings in the district. The delicacies known as Parkgate Shrimps, which enjoy a more than local reputation, although prepared and despatched from the neighbourhood are caught in the wide estuary of the River Dee.

Food Poisoning Outbreaks.

One case of food poisoning was notified during the year. The casual organism was salmonella typhi-murium.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Maintenance treatment of sewers was carried out in areas in which test baiting indicated the presence of rats. There was no evidence of surface infestation in these areas.

Pet Animals Act, 1951.

There is one registered Pet Shop.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

171 cases of notifiable disease other than Tuberculosis occurred during the year. Details of these are given in the following table.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) for the Year 1954.

Disease	Number of Cases Notified										Cases ad- mitted to Hos- pital	Deaths
	Total	At ages—Years										
		Under 1	1—3	3—5	5—10	10—15	15—25	25—45	45—65	65 & over		
Scarlet Fever	39	—	4	8	24	2	—	1	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	14	—	1	—	—	—	1	4	4	4	—	4
Measles	107	1	18	32	52	3	1	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	5	2	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	4	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
TOTALS	171	3	26	40	79	5	2	7	4	5	—	4

Prevention of Blindness.

No action has been taken by the District Council under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for the prevention of blindness or for the treatment of persons suffering from any disease or injury to the eyes.

This work is undertaken in the District by the Cheshire County Council.

Tuberculosis.

No action has been taken during 1954 under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, relating to the compulsory removal to a hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

New Cases and Mortality during 1954.

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 years	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
5—15 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—25 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35 years ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—45 years ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 years and over ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	5	—	—	1	1	—	—	—

Note:—The above death was that of a patient who had been notified before death.

Tuberculosis.

	PULMONARY			NON-PULMONARY			Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary TOTAL
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	
Number of cases of Tuberculosis on the Register at the beginning of 1954.	22	18	40	6	5	11	51
Number of cases notified under the Regulations for the first time during 1954.	3	—	3	—	1	1	4
Number of cases removed from the Register during a preceding year which have been restored to the Register during the year.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Number of cases added to the Register during the year which have been brought to notice otherwise than by Notification under the Regulations.	2	—	2	—	—	—	2
Number of cases removed from the Register during the year.	3	2	5	—	—	—	5
Number of cases remaining on the Register at 31st December, 1954.	24	16	40	6	6	12	52

WIRRAL URBAN DISTRICT.

This district was constituted under the Chester Review Order, 1st April, 1933. It includes the Parishes of Heswall, Barnston, Gayton, Irby, Pensby, Thurstaston and parts of Brimstage, Thornton Hough and Arrowe.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (acres)	5,639
Registrar-General's Estimate of Resident Population (mid-1954)	17,160
Number of inhabited houses	5,727
Rateable Value	£157,507
Sum represented by a penny rate	£640

The district is residential. A number of persons are employed in agriculture, fishing, the building trade and two factories manufacturing clothing.

The natural increase of a population is the excess of births over deaths. The following table shows the condition 1945—1954 in Wirral :—

Year	Population	Natural Increase per 1,000 of Population
1945	15,800	84 more births than deaths +5.3
1946	16,370	99 more births than deaths +6.0
1947	16,610	148 more births than deaths +8.9
1948	17,130	115 more births than deaths +6.7
1949	17,230	70 more births than deaths +4.1
1950	17,180	35 more births than deaths +2.0
1951	17,160	5 more births than deaths +0.3
1952	17,000	50 more births than deaths +2.9
1953	17,040	31 more births than deaths +1.8
1954	17,160	35 more births than deaths +2.0

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year 1954.

These statistics are calculated on a population of 17,160 the estimate furnished by the Registrar-General.

Live Births.	Total	Males	Females
Legitimate	252	122	130
Illegitimate	7	4	3
Totals	259	126	133

Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population 15.1

Birth Rate for England and Wales 15.2

Birth Rate in 160 Smaller Towns
(Resident population 25,000—50,000 at 1951 census) 15.5

Stillbirths.	Total	Males	Females
Legitimate	7	6	1
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Totals	7	6	1

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 26.3

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births for England and Wales 24.0

Deaths.	Total	Males	Females
	224	114	110

Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population 13.1

Death Rate for England and Wales 11.3

Death Rate for 160 Smaller Towns
(Resident population 25,000—50,000 at 1951 census) 11.3

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	Nil	Nil

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age:

	Total	Males	Females
Legitimate	3	1	2
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Totals	3	1	2

All infants per 1,000 live births	11.6
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	11.9
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil
Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales	25.5
Infant Mortality Rate for 160 Smaller Towns (Resident population 25,000—50,000 at 1951 census)	23.8

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	41
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	Nil

Number of Deaths during Years 1945—1954.

Year	Number	Rate per 1,000 per annum.
1945	195	12.3
1946	194	11.9
1947	183	11.0
1948	184	10.7
1949	207	12.0
1950	190	11.1
1951	222	12.9
1952	177	10.4
1953	197	11.6
1954	224	13.1

Deaths at Various Ages During 1954.

Age	Number of Deaths
Under 1 year	3
1 year and under 2	—
2 years and under 5	2
5 years and under 15	—
15 years and under 25	—
25 years and under 35	—
35 years and under 45	9
45 years and under 55	15
55 years and under 65	23
65 years and under 75	61
75 years and under 85	84
85 years and over	27
Total	224

Table of Infantile Mortality, 1945—1954.

Death rate of infants under 1 year of age (per 1,000 live births) :—

Year	Wirral	England and Wales
1945	25.1	46
1946	23.9	43
1947	33.2	41
1948	30.1	34
1949	28.9	32
1950	26.7	29.8
1951	26.4	29.6
1952	13.2	27.6
1953	21.9	26.8
1954	11.6	25.5

The Infant Mortality Rate in the 160 Smaller Towns was 23.8 in 1954.

Infantile Deaths.

The causes of death of children under the age of one year are shown below :—

Cause of Death	Under 1 week	1—2 weeks	2—3 weeks	3—4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3—6 months	6—9 months	9—12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
Meningitis	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Total	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3

Causes of Death.

The table below was compiled from figures supplied by the Registrar-General, and the classification is given according to the cause of death.

Causes of Death	Males	Females	Total
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	—	1
2. Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic Disease	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
8. Measles	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	—	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	5	8
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	11	—	11
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast.....	—	1	1
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	—	—
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	11	10	21
15. Leukaemia, alymphocytosis	1	—	1
16. Diabetes	—	—	—
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	17	22	39
18. Coronary disease, angina	17	14	31
19. Hypertension with heart disease	2	6	8
20. Other heart disease	10	21	31
21. Other circulatory disease	9	7	16
22. Influenza	—	—	—
23. Pneumonia	3	4	7
24. Bronchitis	7	3	10
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ..	—	1	1
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	1	3
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	—	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	2	1	3
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	2	—	2
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—
31. Congenital malformations	—	—	—
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	10	12	22
33. Motor vehicle accidents	2	—	2
34. All other accidents	2	2	4
35. Suicide	—	—	—
36. Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—
TOTALS ..	114	110	224

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1954 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year	LIVE BIRTHS			DEATHS								Natural Increase (Excess of Births over Deaths)			
	Population Estimated Mid-Year	Number	Rate	Rate England & Wales	Total Number Registered in District	Transferable		Under 1 year of age			At all ages				
						Non-Residents Registered in District	Residents Not Registered in District	Number	Rate per 1,000 Live Births	Rate England & Wales	Number		Rate	Standard Rate for Comparison England & Wales	Rate England & Wales
1945	15,800	279	17.7	16.1	181	55	69	7	25.1	46	195	12.3		11.4	+ 84
1946	16,370	293	17.9	19.1	183	60	71	7	23.9	43	194	11.9		11.5	+ 99
1947	16,610	331	19.9	20.5	173	53	63	11	33.2	41	183	11.0		12.0	+ 148
1948	17,130	299	17.5	17.9	161	43	66	9	30.1	34	184	10.7		10.8	+ 115
1949	17,230	277	16.1	16.7	175	44	76	8	28.9	32	207	12.0	10.9	11.7	+ 70
1950	17,180	225	13.1	15.8	138	15	67	6	26.7	29.8	190	11.1	10.0	11.6	+ 35
1951	17,160	227	13.2	15.5	173	17	66	6	26.4	29.6	222	12.9	11.6	12.5	+ 5
1952	17,000	227	13.4	15.3	120	20	77	3	13.2	27.6	177	10.4	9.4	11.3	+ 50
1953	17,040	228	13.3	15.5	140	20	77	5	21.9	26.8	197	11.6	10.4	11.4	+ 31
1954	17,160	259	15.1	15.2	144	20	100	3	11.6	25.5	224	13.1	11.5	11.3	+ 35

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Public Health Officers.

Details are given on page 2.

Laboratory Facilities.

Investigations of a Public Health nature are undertaken by the Birkenhead and Liverpool branches of the Ministry of Health Laboratory Service. A clinical pathology service is provided by the Regional Hospital Board in the laboratories at the Clatterbridge General Hospital.

Food and drugs throughout the district are still submitted for analysis to the Cheshire County Laboratory. The samples are taken by County Officers.

Ambulance Facilities.

The Cheshire County Council is the ambulance authority for this area. There has been a great increase in the demand for ambulance and hospital transport and it has been necessary to provide for a considerable expansion of the service in order to meet the increased volume of work.

The ambulance service is operated from Sandymount, Telegraph Road, Heswall, and Broomfield, Meols Drive, Hoylake—(telephone Hoylake 2970).

Nursing in the Home.

This service is now provided by the Cheshire County Council and three District Nurse Midwives are employed by them to serve this Urban District.

Treatment Centres and Clinics.

Diphtheria Immunisation Clinics are conducted by the County Council.

The following Clinics are also provided by the Cheshire County Council :-

Child Welfare.

Place	Each Month	Time.
Clinic Centre, Telegraph Rd., Heswall	Every Monday	1-45 p.m.
Methodist Church Hall, Irby	Every Wednesday	1-45 p.m.

School Clinic.

Clinic Centre, Telegraph Rd., Heswall	Every Tuesday	1-45 p.m.
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Ante-Natal.

The Ante-Natal Clinics are provided by the Cheshire County Council in conjunction with the Central Wirral Hospital Management Committee and are held at :—

Clinic Centre, Telegraph Rd., Heswall	Every Thursday	9-30 a.m.
The County Health Visitors and Midwives are in attendance.		

Paediatric.

Clinic Centre, Heswall	Every Tuesday	2-0 p.m.
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Ophthalmic.

Clinic Centre, Heswall	2nd and 4th Fridays	1-0 p.m.
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Speech Therapy.

Clinic Centre, Heswall	Every Friday	9-0 to 4-0 p.m.
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Dental.

Clinic Centre, Heswall	Every Wednesday	9-0 to 4-0 p.m.
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Ear, Nose and Throat.

Clatterbridge Hospital	Every Thursday	4 to 5 p.m.
		Children
	Every Friday	3-30 p.m. to 4-30 p.m. Children
	Every Friday	10-30 a.m. to 12 noon Adults.

Tuberculosis Dispensary.	Each Month.	Time.
42 Hamilton Square, Birkenhead	Every Tuesday	 2-0 p.m. to 5-0 p.m.
	Every Thursday	 10-0 a.m. to 5-0 p.m.
	Every Friday	 2-0 p.m. to 5-0 p.m.
Venereal Diseases.		
St. James Hospital, Tollemache Road, Birkenhead. (Clinic Annexe)	Every Monday	 2-0 p.m. to 6-30 p.m. Male and Female
	Every Wednesday	10-0 a.m. to 12 Noon. Male and Female.
		2-0 p.m. to 6-30 p.m. Male and Female.
	Every Friday	 2-0 p.m. to 6-30 p.m. Male and Female.
Chester Royal Infirmary	 Every Monday	 5 p.m. Female.
	Every Wednesday	 5 p.m. Male.
	Every Thursday	 5 p.m. Female.
	Every Saturday	 12 noon Male.

Hospitals.

The Hospitals of the District, both Voluntary and Public are under the control of the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board. Wirral is in the area of the Central Wirral Hospital Management Committee.

The hospitals at Clatterbridge still admit a large number of patients from this area and others go to the hospitals of Liverpool and Birkenhead.

The Royal Liverpool Children's Hospital, Heswall, accommodates 242 patients. It is the country branch of the Royal Liverpool Children's Hospital, and was designed originally for the treatment of orthopaedic cases. The Hospital admits patients from this area. It is equipped with a steam disinfecter.

The Cleaver Sanatorium for the reception of cases of tuberculosis admits patients from this district.

The Maternity Home at Oldfield Way, Heswall, which has accommodation for 13 maternity patients is now under the management of the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board.

The Smallpox Hospital for treatment of cases of this disease is situated at New Ferry.

National Assistance Act, 1948.

This Act gives power to Local Sanitary Authorities to arrange for removal to hospital under a Justice's order of aged and infirm persons who are not able to look after themselves and who are not receiving proper care and attention. Much time and patience are needed in order to help these old people and a number of such cases have been investigated. Experience has shown that the provisions of this Section are not very effective mainly because of the serious shortage of hospital and other accommodation for the infirm and chronic sick.

Mortuaries.

The Public Mortuary which is owned by the Urban District Council is situated in Thurstaston Road, Heswall.

The premises are unsatisfactory and arrangements have been made for post mortem examinations to be made at the mortuary owned by the Hoylake Urban District Council.

LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

Adopted Acts and Conferred Powers.

1. The Council has all the powers and is subject to all the duties conferred or imposed upon an Urban District Council by the general law. (Ministry of Health, 1st August, 1933.)
2. The Private Street Works Act, 1892.
3. The Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890. (Parts III and IV as amended.)

4. The Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907. (Part II)(Streets and buildings) as amended, other than Sections 21, 30 and 31. Part VI (Recreation grounds); and Section 94 comprised in Part X (miscellaneous provisions). (Subject to certain conditions mentioned in Ministry of Health Order 79322 (1934)).
5. The Public Health Act, 1925.
Part II (excluding Sections 21, 22 and 24).
Part VI (Recreation grounds).
6. Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, 1899-1945.
7. Cheshire County Council Act, 1953.
Sections enumerated in First Schedule.
Sections 70, 75, 76 and 87.

Bye-Laws.

The following Bye-Laws are in force in the Urban District :—

1. Nuisances, made 7th October, 1935 (confirmed by the Ministry of Health, 9th January, 1936).
2. Slaughter-houses, made 7th October, 1935 (confirmed by the Ministry of Health, 20th January, 1936).
3. Smoke Abatement, made 7th October, 1935 (confirmed by the Ministry of Health, 9th January, 1936.)
4. New Streets and Buildings, made 7th October, 1935 (confirmed by the Ministry of Health, 20th January, 1936).
5. Tents, Vans, Sheds and similar structures, made 6th July, 1936 (confirmed by the Ministry of Health, 28th August, 1936).
6. Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food, made 10th July, 1950 (confirmed by the Ministry of Food, 6th September, 1950).
7. Buildings, made 11th November, 1953 (confirmed by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, 23rd January, 1954).

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water.

The District is supplied by the West Cheshire Water Board. The main sources of supply are deep wells at Prenton, Hooton and Mouldsworth, and the water is controlled by frequent chemical and bacteriological examinations, all of which have proved satisfactory. None of the waters has a plumbo-solvent action.

A scheme has been prepared for the extraction of water from the River Dee. Water from this source is already being used for industrial purposes although it will be some time before such water will be available for domestic use.

Examples of representative analyses are given on pages 20, 21 & 22, and the extent of the water softening carried out by the West Cheshire Water Board is given on page 19.

During the year no complaint was received of inadequate or insufficient water supply.

Public main supplies are in use throughout the area for drinking, domestic, trade and agricultural purposes. Every permanent type dwelling house has a separate piped supply of mains water and standpipes are used only in connection with erections constructed of short-lived materials and normally used for seasonal occupation, but as a result of housing shortage, now being occupied on a permanent basis.

The Royal Liverpool Children's Hospital has an independent supply from a borehole 300 feet deep. There is a supply of public mains water available for the hospital as and when required.

Particulars of the number of dwelling houses and of the population supplied from public water mains (a) direct to houses and (b) by means of standpipes, are given below :—

				Dwelling Houses	Population
(a)	House direct	....	....	5,685	17,034
(b)	Standpipes	....	....	42	126

Consumption:

Details of the quantity supplied to consumers in this area are not available but it is estimated that the average daily consumption per head was 33 gallons.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Parts of Heswall, Irby, Pensby and Thurstaston are sewered to the North Wirral Outfall; parts of Heswall, Irby, Pensby and Barnston to the Fender Valley Sewer; Gayton and parts of Heswall to the River Dee.

Overloading of various sewers occurs during periods of heavy rainfall and parts of the District are subjected to flooding. Anti-flood valves have been fitted in several lengths of drain but this palliative is appropriate in comparatively few cases.

The problem of providing adequate sewers continues to receive the attention of the Council and specialist consultants have been instructed to prepare an amended scheme for that part of the District draining to the Fender Valley Sewer.

Further complaints were received in connection with the pollution of Arrowe Brook near Arrowe Bridge caused by the operation of a sewer storm overflow. Expedients to screen the overflowing sewage have not proved wholly successful.

Rivers and Streams.

Three cases of minor pollution caused by unsatisfactory effluents from septic tanks were remedied.

Silting up and obstructions in the Arrowe Brook were reported to the Cheshire Rivers Board and received prompt and effective attention.

Closet Accommodation.

The following premises are provided with pail closets :—

Permanent Dwellings	....	....	13
Temporary Structures	....	....	48

During the year one water closet was substituted for a pail closet.

Open Spaces.

There are some 223.5 acres of public open space in the district.

Public Cleansing.

Refuse Collection.

Although it is becoming increasingly difficult to obtain competent labour for this work a regular weekly collection of refuse from dwelling houses is provided and there is a twice weekly collection from certain business premises and institutions.

Statistics.

Number of premises from which refuse was collected	6030
Number of bins emptied per week	6260
Net cost of collection and disposal per 1,000 premises visited (per visit)	£26.49
Net cost of collection and disposal per 1,000 bins collected (per collection)	£26.09

Refuse Disposal.

All refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping on land at the Heswall Sewage Disposal Works. This tip will soon be completed and consideration is being given to the use of land which the Council has purchased at Thurstaston.

Salvage Collection.

The weight and value of salvage collected was almost identical with that for the previous year. The net profit from the sale of salvage was increased to £830 and the total net profit since 1939 is now £11,406.

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	205	2	0	1543	5	3
Textiles	4	1	2	114	13	10
Metals	4	5	2	25	11	11
Tins	2	16	0	9	7	0
Miscellaneous	—	—	—		5	0
Sale of Shed	—	—	—	2	0	0
Insurance Claim	—	—	—	242	10	0
(In respect of Paper baling shed and contents destroyed by fire)						
	216	5	0	£1937	13	0

Factories Act, 1937 & 1948.**Inspections**

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	9	12	1	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	38	125	4	—
(3) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers' Premises)	73	355	32	—
Total	120	492	37	—

Defects found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ..	32	30	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	8	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	2	4	2	1	—
Total	37	42	2	3	—

Building Sites.

There was a tendency for contractors to commence building before providing suitable sanitary accommodation for their employees and on 32 occasions it was necessary to take action in this connection.

Shops.

One hundred and fifty routine inspections were made of shop premises. Where necessary, informal action was sufficient to ensure compliance with the requirements of Section 38, Shops Act, 1950.

Camping Sites and Movable Dwellings.

The demand for camping sites is in excess of those available and the Council has purchased land adjacent to the Thurstaston foreshore which is to be equipped for this purpose.

The licensed camping sites were maintained in a satisfactory condition and no complaint was received of the manner in which camping was conducted.

Efforts by itinerant campers to establish permanent sites in the District were frustrated with the co-operation of the local police.

Number of Tents, Vans, Sheds and similar structures in the District for the year ended 31st December, 1954.

Ward	Vans, Sheds, etc.		Tents (March to October)
	Permanently Occupied	Casually Occupied	
Barnston	—	2	—
Gayton	—	—	—
Heswall	18	52	24
Irby	12	24	—
Pensby	—	—	—
Thurstaston	1	3	—
Totals ...	31	81	24

Smoke Abatement.

Efforts were continued to reduce smoke emission from non-domestic chimneys, and in this connection 154 routine observations and advisory visits to works were undertaken.

Conditions at a large hospital in the District were most unsatisfactory and, the Council being satisfied of the existence of a nuisance, the circumstances were reported to the Minister of Health.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

There is no public swimming bath in this District. A boys' boarding school and a boys' camp have private swimming baths, the latter having equipment for filtration and chlorination of the water.

Bacteriological reports on samples of water taken from these swimming baths were satisfactory.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Number of Houses found to be infested :-

(a)	Council Houses	....	....	....	2
(b)	Other Houses	....	....	....	None

Number of Houses disinfested :—

(a)	Council Houses	....	....	....	2
(b)	Other Houses	....	....	....	None

Schools.

The educational establishments in the District now consist of one Secondary Modern School, three County Primary Schools, one Church of England (controlled) School, two Church of England Schools and eight private Schools.

All the Schools have water closets and are supplied from the public water supply.

The County Schools, with the exception of the Heswall County Primary School and the Heswall Church of England School have canteens with modern equipment for the preparation and cooking of food. The meals for the latter two schools are supplied from the canteen at the Pensby Secondary Modern School.

These premises were inspected from time to time during the year and any matters requiring attention were dealt with expeditiously.

HOUSING.**Repairs.**

During the year one hundred and thirty complaints of structural defects were investigated. The majority were made good following informal action and it was necessary to serve only twenty-five Statutory notices.

Two owners were successfully prosecuted for failing to comply with Abatement Notices.

The Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954 resulted in many tenants and owners seeking information concerning those sections of the Act permitting rent increases. Only two applications were made for Certificates of Disrepair and these were granted.

Demolition and Clearance.

One Demolition Order was made and a Clearance Order in respect of four dwellings was confirmed. It was also possible to rehouse the tenants of two dwellings which were the subject of Demolition Orders made in 1939.

This resumption of work under the Housing Acts is a welcome sign that the problem of housing accommodation is easing.

New Accommodation.

During the year 90 houses and 2 houses and shops were built by the Council and 134 houses by private enterprises.

The following table indicates the progress made since 1st August 1945:—

Description	Local Authority	Private Enterprise	Total
Number of new houses erected since 1st August 1945 :-			
(a) Permanent ..	555	384	939
(b) Houses and Shops	2	—	2
(c) Pre-fabricated	40	—	40
Number of war damaged houses erected since 1st August 1945 :-	—	4	4
Number of flats provided	6	14	20
TOTALS ..	603	402	1005

The annual rent roll now exceeds £12,000 and arrears of rent are negligible.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

There are eleven retailers of milk in the district. The following licenses were issued for the sale of designated milks:-

Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations 1949-1954.

Dealers Retailing Licence	5
Supplementary Retailing Licence	1

Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milks) Regulations 1949-1954.

Dealers Retailing Licence	23
Supplementary Retailing Licence	8

All schools receive supplies of pasteurised milks and the milk provided in hospitals is either pasteurised or tuberculin tested.

Milk Sampling.

This work is undertaken regularly and systematically, the practice being to take monthly samples of all sources of supply for examination by the Public Health Laboratory Service in Birkenhead. The results of samples examined during the year were as follows :-

Designation	No. of Samples	Methylene Blue Test		Phosphatase Test	
		Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed
Tuberculin Tested	*43	38	3	—	—
Pasteurised	*93	90	1	88	3
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	**61	57	3	59	1
Sterilised	1	1	—	1	—
TOTALS	198	186	7	148	4

*Tests void on 2 samples of each designation.

**Test void on 1 sample of this designation.

Close liaison is being maintained with the County Milk Regulations Officer and any reports of unsatisfactory samples receive prompt and effective attention.

Meat and Other Foods.

Considerable time and attention was given to inspecting food premises as reference to page No. 95 of the Report will show.

The practice was continued of giving informal talks on food hygiene to various organisations.

Meat Inspection.

There is no slaughterhouse in the Urban District and all meat is obtained from neighbouring areas. In this connection it was noted that vehicles and personnel engaged in transporting meat were satisfactory.

Routine inspections of all butchers shops confirmed that they were being maintained in good order.

Unsound Food.

Foodstuffs condemned as unsuitable for human consumption were as follows :—

Commodity Surrendered	Quantity
Bacon	5½ lbs.
Black Puddings	7 lbs.
Cheese	14½ lbs.
Meat	15½ lbs.
New Potatoes	1 cwt.
Cake Mixture	½ lb.
Canned Fish	3 Tins
Canned Jam	1 Tin
Canned Fruit	33 Tins
Canned Meat	6 Tins
Canned Milk	14 Tins
Canned Soup	5 Tins
Canned Vegetables	15 Tins
Vinegar	2 Gallons

Arrangements for disposal were in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Food.

Ice Cream

There are nine premises registered for the manufacture and fifty-six for the sale of ice cream.

Routine inspections were made of all these premises and attention was also given to vans retailing ice cream in the area.

Ice Cream Sampling.

Five hundred and eighty-four samples were submitted for bacteriological examination and the results were as follows :—

Class of Mix	No. of Samples	Provisional Grade Number			
		1	2	3	4
Cold Mix 	5	5	—	—	—
Heat Treated 	579	579	—	—	—
TOTALS 	584	584	—	—	—

In addition, one hundred and ninety-two lolly ices were examined and found to be satisfactory.

Licensed Premises.

Plans have been prepared for extensive improvements to the sanitary accommodation at two licensed premises in the area and it is anticipated that the work will be undertaken during the coming year.

Attention was given to arrangements for washing glasses in licensed premises and one hundred and forty-nine swabs taken from glasses were submitted for bacteriological examination. The results were satisfactory.

Adulteration.

This work is undertaken by the Cheshire County Council.

List of Samples taken in the Wirral Urban District under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, during the year ended 31st December, 1954.

Name of Sample	Number Obtained	Number adulterated or not up to the recognised standard of quality
Almonds, Ground	1	—
Boric Acid Ointment	1	—
Blackcurrant Cordial	1	—
Condensed Milk	3	—
Custard Powder	1	—
Cheese	1	—
Cheese Spread with Ham	1	—
Desiccated Coconut	1	—
Iodine	1	—
Iodine and Blackcurrant Pastilles	1	—
Jam	1	—
Lemon Curd	2	—
Lemon Squash	1	—
Milks	27	—
Margarine	1	—
Olive Oil	3	—
Prunes	1	—
Suet	2	—
Surgical Spirit	1	—
Salt	1	—
Shrimps, Potted	1	—
Whipping Cream	1	—
Whisky	1	—
Totals	55	—

Shellfish.

There has been a reduction in the gathering of cockles from layings which are within the jurisdiction of the Chester Port Health Authority.

Food Poisoning Outbreaks.

Two family outbreaks of suspected food poisoning affecting a total of eight persons were investigated. Specimens were submitted for bacteriological examination but the causal agents were not identified.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

One whole-time rat catcher is employed and the district was systematically inspected during the year.

The following is a summary of the work done :—

Type of Property	Total Number of Properties Infested by Rats and Mice	Total Number of Inspections as a result of		Total Number of Properties treated by Local Authority
		Notifi- cation	Other- wise	
Local Authority	45	3	318	45
Dwelling Houses	160	886	2997	160
Business Premises	18	181	278	15
Agricultural Property	18	—	125	—
TOTALS	241	1070	3718	220

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

290 cases of notifiable disease other than Tuberculosis were recorded during the year.

Details of the cases are given in the following table :—

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) for the Year 1954.

Disease	Number of Cases Notified										Cases ad- mitted to Hos- pital	Deaths
	Total	At ages—Years										
		Under 1	1—3	3—5	5—10	10—15	15—25	25—45	45—65	65 & over		
Scarlet Fever	15	—	—	—	11	2	1	1	—	—	2	—
Pneumonia	21	—	—	1	2	—	1	7	6	4	—	7
Measles	238	4	33	50	145	3	—	2	1	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	6	2	1	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Polio-myelitis	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Erysipelas	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Dysentery	7	—	—	3	1	—	2	1	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	290	7	34	56	160	5	4	11	8	5	3	7

Prevention of Blindness.

No action has been taken by the District Council under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for the prevention of blindness or for the treatment of persons suffering from any disease or injury to the eyes.

This work is undertaken in the District by the Cheshire County Council.

Tuberculosis.

No action has been taken during 1954 under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, relating to the compulsory removal to a hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

New Cases and Mortality during 1954.

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 years	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5—15 years ...	2	2	2	5	—	—	—	—
15—25 years ...	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
25—35 years	7	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—45 years	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55 years ...	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65 years	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 years and over ...	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
TOTALS	17	8	4	6	1	—	—	—

Note.—The death shown above was that of a patient who had been notified before death.

Tuberculosis.

	PULMONARY			NON-PULMONARY			Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary TOTAL
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	
Number of cases of Tuberculosis on the Register at the beginning of 1954.	51	38	89	8	11	19	108
Number of cases notified under the Regulations for the first time during 1954.	10	4	14	—	3	3	17
Number of cases removed from the Register during a preceding year which have been restored to the Register during the year.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Number of cases added to the Register during the year which have been brought to notice otherwise than by Notification under the Regulations.	7	4	11	4	3	7	18
Number of cases removed from the Register during the year.	6	4	10	2	9	11	21
Number of cases remaining on the Register at 31st December, 1954.	62	42	104	10	8	18	122

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.
Inspections made during the year ended 31st December 1954

Number and Nature of Inspections Made		Notices Served		Result of Service of Notices		Prosecutions
		Informal	Statutory	Complied With	Remaining in hand	
	No.					
Dwelling Houses:—						
Inspected on Complaints	225	120	24	87	57	2
Re-Inspected	2042	—	—	—	—	—
Re-Infectious Diseases	103	—	—	—	—	—
Housing Acts on Complaints	308	3	1	1	3	—
House to House Inspection	347	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	611	—	—	—	—	—
Re Infestations	79	—	—	—	—	—
Tents, Vans and Sheds	435	1	—	1	—	—
Factories Acts:—						
With Mechanical Power	125	4	—	3	1	—
Without Mechanical Power	12	1	—	1	—	—
Outworkers	5	—	—	—	—	—
Building Sites	355	32	—	30	2	—
Theatres and Places of Enter- tainment	7	—	—	—	—	—
Dairies and Milkshops	5	—	—	—	—	—
Milk Distribution	18	—	—	—	—	—
Milk Samples	198	—	—	—	—	—
Shops Act Inspections	150	2	—	1	1	—
Premises used for Preparation of Food	280	9	—	8	1	—
Food Bye-laws Inspections	326	—	—	—	—	—
Fried Fish and Chip Shops	5	—	—	—	—	—
Food Inspections	24	—	—	—	—	—
Ice Cream Premises	295	—	—	—	—	—
Ice Cream and Lolly Ice Samples	776	—	—	—	—	—
Swabs for Bacteriological Examination	618	—	—	—	—	—
Water Supply	8	1	—	1	—	—
Water Samples	14	—	—	—	—	—
Pigs, Fowls and Other Animals	204	6	1	7	—	—
Schools	41	3	—	2	1	—
Sewers, Ventilators, Street Gullies	182	—	—	—	—	—
Drains Inspected	1228	53	1	13	11	—
Excavations made	49	—	—	—	—	—
Smoke Tested	509	—	—	—	—	—
Water Tested	40	—	—	—	—	—
Carried forward	9,624	235	27	185	77	2

Sanitary Inspection of the Area—*continued*

Inspections made during the year ended 31st December, 1954

Number and Nature of Inspections made	No.	Notices Served		Result of Service of Notices		Prosecutions
		Informal	Statutory	Complied With	Remaining in hand	
Brought forward	9,624	235	27	185	77	2
New Buildings	273	—	—	—	—	—
Septic Tanks, Cesspools	135	6	—	5	1	—
Pail Closets, Water Closets	5	—	—	—	—	—
Refuse Collection	595	—	—	—	—	—
Refuse Disposal	158	—	—	—	—	—
Dustbins	414	84	4	86	2	—
Offensive Accumulations	52	—	—	—	—	—
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act:—						
Agricultural Property	125	2	—	2	—	—
Private Dwellings	3883	—	—	—	—	—
Business Premises	459	10	—	9	1	—
Local Authority Property	321	—	—	—	—	—
Smoke Observations	142	1	—	—	1	—
Smoke Complaints Visited	7	—	—	—	—	—
Advisory Visits to Works	5	—	—	—	—	—
Pools, Ditches, etc.	219	8	—	8	—	—
Public Conveniences	19	—	—	—	—	—
Licensed Premises	25	2	—	1	1	—
Swabs for Bacteriological Examination	149	—	—	—	—	—
Street Vendors and Hawkers Carts	73	9	—	6	3	—
Flooding	61	—	—	—	—	—
Pet Animal Act Inspections	16	—	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	79	—	—	—	—	—
Notices outstanding from 1953	—	94	20	93	21	—
Totals	16,839	451	51	395	107	2

SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED DURING 1954.

Houses:—

Roofs Repaired	46
Chimney Stacks Pointed or Repaired	14
Rainwater Gutters Repaired or Renewed	48
Downspouts Repaired or Renewed	4
Walls Pointed or Repaired	20
Windows Repaired	44
New Sash Cords Provided	3
Window Fasteners Renewed	5
Windows made to Open	8
Firegrates Repaired	14
Ovens Repaired or Renewed	1
Plastering to Firegrates Repaired	4
Hearthstones Repaired or Renewed	4
Floors Relaid or Repaired	21
Skirting Boards Repaired or Renewed	7
Wall Plaster Repaired	28
Ceiling Plaster Repaired	13
Walls Cleansed	1
Ceilings Cleansed	1
Doors Repaired	15
Door Fasteners Repaired or Renewed	4
Sinks Repaired or Renewed	19
Sink Waste Pipes Repaired	13
Sink Waste Pipes Trapped	3
Dampness Remedied	68
Overcrowding Abated	3
Nuisances from Animals Abated	2
Yard Surfaces Relaid or Repaired	13
Yard Surfaces proper means of Drainage Provided	3
Sufficient Water Supply Provided	3

Drainage:—

New Drains Constructed	6
Old Drains Reconstructed	4
Drains Repaired	145
„ Disconnected from Sewer	1
„ Inspection Chambers Provided	2
„ Ventilated	1
„ Cleansed	92
Self-Cleansing Gullies Provided	10

Water Closets: —

Roofs Repaired	2
Walls Repaired	3
New Basins Fixed	8
Connections Repaired	13
Cisterns Repaired or Renewed	8
Provided with a sufficient Supply of Water	4
Doors Repaired or Renewed	1
Seats Repaired or Renewed	4

Carried Forward ... 736

SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED DURING 1954—continued

	Brought Forward	736
Dustbins:—		
Dustbins Provided	...	109
Pail Closets:—		
Sanitary Conditions Improved	...	3
Limewashed and Cleansed	..	1
Nuisances Abated		1
Cesspools, Septic Tanks :—		
Repaired	....	2
Altered		1
Nuisances Abated	—	3
Schools:—		
Sanitary Accommodation Improved		2
Farms :—		
Drainage Improved	....	1
Vehicles Used For Distribution of Food :—		
Sanitary Conditions Improved	....	2
Name and Address Exhibited	....	1
Premises Used for Preparation of Food :—		
Sanitary Conditions Improved	..	16
Satisfactory Washing Facilities Provided		3
Limewashed and Cleansed	..	10
Factories and Workshops :—		
Cleansed and Limewashed	....	6
Insufficient Sanitary Accommodation		30
Defective Sanitary Accommodation		8
Fire Escapes Provided		1
Other Improvements		3
Miscellaneous:—	....	12
	Total	951



